

What to do if you have a gun in your home:

- Make sure the gun is empty and lock it up where children can not reach it.
- Always store bullets in a separate locked location.
- Only parents should know the location of guns and ammunition.
- If you are handling or cleaning a gun **NEVER** leave it unattended.
- Be sure to let children know that guns are not toys and should not be touched without adult permission.
- Avoid letting children play with realistic toy guns, pellet guns, air guns, air rifles, or BB guns.
- Explain to your children the difference between video games, TV, movies, and real life violence.



Sources:

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Harvard School of Public Health, cited in *The Boston Parent's Paper*, August 1999.

FIREARM SAFETY



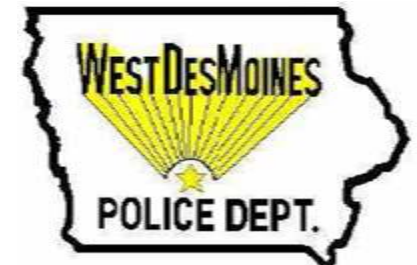
www.wdm-ia.com



West Des Moines Police Department
250 Mills Civic Parkway
West Des Moines, IA 50265
(515) 222-3333

The West Des Moines Police Department provides free gun locks. You can pick one up during normal business hours.

Contact your local law enforcement agency for information on free gun locks in your area.



Statistic About Firearms and Children:

- In 2005 every nine hours a child or teen was killed in a firearm-related accident or suicide.
- The overall firearm-related death rate among U.S. children aged less than 15 years was nearly 12 time higher than among children in 25 other industrialized countries combined.
- 40% of American households with children have guns.
- 1.69 million kids 18 and under in the United States are living with loaded and unlocked household firearms.
- In 72% of unintentional deaths and injuries, suicide, and suicide attempts with a firearm of 0-19 year olds, the firearm was stored in the residence of the victim, a relative, or a friend.
- Two-thirds of students in grades 6-12 say they could obtain a firearm in 24 hours.
- Two-thirds of the 41 students involved in 37 school-shooting incidents from 1974-2000 got their guns from their own home or that of a relative.

What Should Your Child Do If They Find A Gun?

It is very important to teach your children to follow these simple rules if they find a gun.

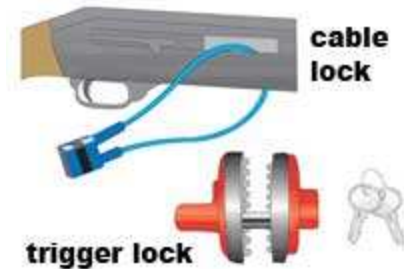
- **Stop**
- **Don't Touch**
- **Remove Yourself From the Area**
- **Tell an Adult**



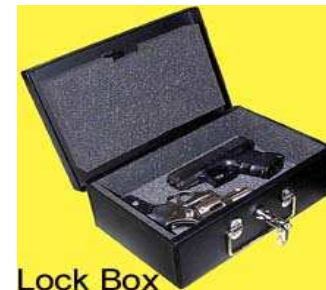
A child as young as 3 has the finger strength to pull a trigger.

Safe and Secure Storage Options

Firearm Lock
(trigger and cable)



Firearm Case/Lock Box



Firearm Safe

